

Remarks

In the Claims

Claims 1-18 were pending.

Claims 5, 7-10, 12 and 16 are amended.

Claim 11 is original.

Claims 1-4, 6, 14, 15, 17 and 18 are as previously presented.

Claims 13 and 18 are cancelled.

Claim 19 is new.

The application now contains claims 1-12, 14-17 and 19.

Claim 5 is amended for clarity by deleting each of the two occurrences of the word "or" from the list of structures.

Claims 7, 8 and 10 are amended to be dependent on claim 5. As claims 7 and 9 now contain the limitations of claim 5 requiring the presence of "repeating unit T", the phrase "an amount of 0 to 99.5 mol%" immediately following the term "repeating unit T" is amended to read "an amount up to 99.5 mol%" because a range including 0% of T no longer makes sense. Support is found in the specification page 10 line 27 through page 11 line 2.

Claim 12 is amended in line 5 for clarity and to avoid multiple ranges by deleting the phrase "according to claim 1" and by replacing the article "a" before the term "polymer" with "the". By relying on proper antecedence back to claim 10, "the polymer" of claim 12 is necessarily a polymer according to claim 5.

Claim 16 is amended to correct the number of the claim.

New claim 19 is supported by claim 2.

No new matter is added.

Restriction

The Examiner has asked Applicants to elect a single invention from the following:

Group I - Claims 1-4, 7-9 and 14-17 drawn to a polymer a monomer of claim 1,

Group II - Claims 5 and 6 drawn to a polymer comprising a polymer a monomer of claim 1 and another monomer of claim 5,

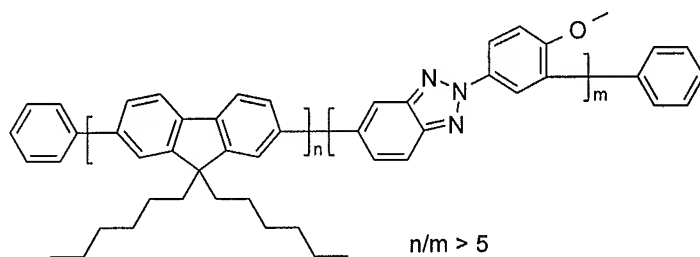
Group III - Claims 10-12 drawn to an optical device comprising a polymer of the invention,

Group IV - Claims 13 and 18 drawn to monomers.

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Group II, Claims 5 and 6 drawn to a polymer comprising a polymer a monomer of claim 1 and another monomer of claim 5. Applicants respectfully note that the instant amendments make claims 7-9 dependent on claim 5 and kindly ask that as claims 7-9 now contain all the limitations of claim 5 that they be included into Group II. Group II would then contain claims 5-9 and 17, claim 17 being dependent on claim 8.

Applicants kindly ask that the Examiner rejoin claims 10-12, either now or upon finding claim 5 allowable as claims 10-12 relate to an application of the polymers of claim 5 consistent with PCT rules, i.e., an optical device which contains a polymer according to claim 5. Applicants further kindly ask that the Examiner, either now or upon finding claim 5 allowable, reconsider the restriction that separates polymers of claim 1 and polymers of claim 5. The polymers of claim 5 are a subset of the polymers of claim 1 in that claim 5 specifies the presence of particular co-monomers which are also possible under claim 1.

Although the Action appears to request election of a single species only if the invention of Group I, claims 1-4, 7-9 and 14-17 is elected as the invention, Applicants note that the polymers of the elected Group II may comprise any of the monomers of claim 1 and believe that it is possible that the Examiner might also eventually require election of a single species for the invention of Group II, Applicants therefore provisionally elect, as the species with which to begin examination, the co-polymer of Example 1 on page 42 which comprises the monomer of formula I of claim 1.

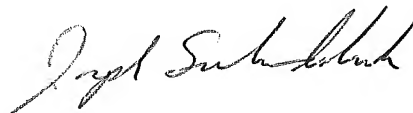


The provisionally elected species reads on claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-12, 14, 15 and 19.

In summary, Applicants elect with traverse the invention of Group II, claims 5 and 6, and, should the Examiner require an election of species, the co-polymer of Example 1 on page 42 which comprises the monomer of formula I of claim 1. In light of the amendments above making claims 7-9 dependent on claim 5, Applicants kindly ask that claims 7-9 and 17 be included into Group II. Thus, Group II would become claims 5-9 and 17. Of these claims, the elected species reads on claims 5-7. Applicants also kindly ask that claims 10-12 be rejoined as they relate to an application of the polymers of claim 5 and that the Examiner also consider rejoinder of the claims of Group I upon finding the elected claims allowable.

Consideration of the elected claims on their merits is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph C. Suhadolnik
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 56,880
filed under 37 CFR 1.34(a)

Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corporation
Patent Department
540 White Plains Road
P.O. Box 2005
Tarrytown, NY 10591-9005
Tel. (914) 785-2973
Fax (914) 785-7102